THE MINISTER OF COAL AND MINES (SUSHREE UMA BHARATI): (a) and (b) The trends of production of raw coal from underground mines, opencast mines and imports of coal during the last ten years is as under:

(figures in million tonnes)

Year	Underground production	Opencast production	Import
1992-93	72.562	169.433	6.495
1993-94	73.978	174.709	7.330
1994-95	71.977	185.793	10.556
1995-96	71.894	201.521	12.512
1996-97	70.952	218.369	13.175
1997-98	69.028	231.375	16.440
1998-99	67.761	228.747	16.535
1999-2000	66.827	237.276	19.700
2000-01	66.068	247.628	20.930
2001-02 (provisional)	64.816	262.770	20.548

From the table it may be seen that while the underground production has shown a decreasing trend, this has been more than off-set by a significant increase in production from opencast mines. The imports have no direct correlation to the trends in underground production but are largely based either on the non- availability of the grade of coking coal required or are linked to certain location-specific advantages, particularly in the coastal areas.

(c) The Government has plans to increase production of coal from underground mines through upgradation of technology *i.e.* mechanized board and pillar, and induction of mechanized long-wall (powered support), continuous miners.

Drinking water projects in Orissa

*24. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects taken up in Orissa under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission;

(b) the present status of work on the projects; and

(c) the fresh steps taken by Government for early completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SHANTA KUMAR): (a) to (c) Rural Water Supply being the State subject, the schemes for providing drinking water supply in rural areas are planned, sanctioned and implemented by the State Governments. The Central Government supplements the efforts of the States by providing funds under the Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). State Governments have been delegated with the powers to plan, sanction and implement the schemes under Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme (ARWSP). There are 114099 rural habitations in Orissa and as per the latest information received from the Government of Orissa, all these habitations are fully covered with the drinking water facility.

In order to institutionalise community based demand driven approach in Rural Drinking Water Supply, Sector Reform Projects are also being implemented in three districts of Orissa. Details of these projects are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of District	Approved Proj. cost	GoI share	Funds released	Reported Expen-diture	Community contribution
1.	Balasore	4000.00	3740.00	1122.00	247.64	12.79
2.	Ganjam	4000.00	3740.00	1122.00	184.33	21.79
3.	Sundargarh	4000.00	3740.00	1122.00	526.46	21.60

These projects were sanctioned on various dates Sundargarh—19th April, 2000, Balasore—25th October, 2000, Ganjam—15th June, 2001. So far 418 schemes were taken up under the project and 412 have been completed. These projects are generally for a period of 3 years. Further, during 1997-98, 7 Sub Mission projects for mitigating water quality problems were sanctioned with total outlay of Rs. 1697.21 lakhs. Government of

India share is Rs. 1272.90 lakh and Rs. 850.45 lakh have been released. So far, no project has been completed. All projects will be, as reported by Government of Orissa, completed by 28.2.2003.

Joint Indo-Russian probe into failure of R. 25 engines of MiG-21

*25. SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Russian experts have joined the probe into the failure of the R.25 engines of the MiG-21 alongwith technical experts from the Indian Air Force and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited;

(b) if so, whether a senior Russian official has indicated that the sub-standard spare parts was one of the reasons for the high number of MiG-21 crashes in India in recent years;

(c) if so, whether any inquiry has been conducted by both Indian and Russian Governments about the defective parts supplied to India; and

(d) if so, what is the outcome of these inquiries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) At the instance of Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL), three Russian experts have arrived and are on visit to three HAL Divisions and two Air Force Stations to look into the matter regarding failure of R. 25 engines. The experts will be with HAL for one month and subsequently submit their findings and recommendations.

DG, Rosoboronexport, Russia, during his press interview given to Indian journalists on 23.8.2002, *inter alia*, mentioned that one of the possible reasons for MiG-21 crashes in India was low quality spares being procured from other CIS countries. The matter was taken up by the Indian side during the fourth meeting of Indo-Russian Sub group on Aviation (IRSA) held in August, 2002 and it was pointed out that the statement made by the DG, Rosoboronexport was not factual. The Russian side was also requested to take suitable measures to counter this press misinformation and to avoid such occurrences in future.